

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /017 W

----- 100982

R 210500Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0972

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

RUQMCRXEMEMBASSY TEHRAN 1763

SECTREASURY WASHDC

SECINTERIOR WASHDC

USDOC WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, XF

SUBJECT: DESALINATION FACT FINDING MISSION

REF: USDOC 5716

1. PRINCE MOHAMMED HAS CANCELLED PLANS TO ATTEND
PUERTO RICO CONFERENCE.

2. MID-MAY TARGET DATE FOR MISSION WAS PROPOSED
IN SPITE OF LOCAL HOTEL SITUATION IN VIEW OF IMPORTANCE
OF TIMELY ACTION. NEXT FEASIBLE TIME FRAME WOULD NOT
OCCUR UNTIL OCTOBER. MUST HAVE FIRM DATES FOR MISSION
ASAP, BOTH TO INSURE HOTEL RESERVATIONS AND AVAIL-
BILITY OF PRINCE MOHAMMED.

3. WESTINGHOUSE POWER SYSTEMS PROJECTS DIVISIONS
(C.F. V.M. WHITE OF PITTSBURG OFFICE, PHONE (412)
941-6221) IS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING MAKING THE KIND OF
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MAJOR COMMITMENT TO DESALINATION PROJECTS IN THE MIDDLE

EAST WHICH WE ARE HOPING FOR, AND ARE INDEPENDENTLY SEEKING DIRECT CONSULTATION WITH PRINCE MOHAMMED. (DUE TO VARIOUS SENSITIVITIES, THEY DO NOT WISH THEIR INTEREST TO BE MADE PUBLIC UNTIL A FIRM DECISION HAS BEEN MADE--THE REASON FOR LOU CLASSIFICATION OF THIS MESSAGE.) AS THE MOST PROMISING CANDIDATE ON THE HORIZON, WE DO NOT WISH TO INTERFER WITH WESTINGHOUSE'S DIRECT APPROACHES TO PRINCE MOHAMMED, BUT SUGGEST THAT-- WITH DUE REGARD FOR THEIR DESIRE FOR CONFIDENTIALITY-- WESTINGHOUSE PARTICIPATION (OR NON-PARTICIPATION) IN THE FACT-FINDING MISSION BE SPECIFICALLY COORDINATED WITH WHITE.

4. FYI, THE CURRENT ACUTE WATER SHORTAGE IN JIDDA (DUE TO FLASH FLOOD DAMAGE OF DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES) SHOULD RESULT IN AN ADDITIONAL URGENCY REGARDING THE DESALINATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

5. O'MEARA OF INTERIOR'S OWRT (PRESUMABLY) PASSED THROUGH JIDDA LAST WEEK WITHOUT TOUCHING BASE WITH EMBASSY. IN VIEW OF IMPORTANCE OF ISSUES AT STAKE, CLOSE COORDINATION WITH EMBASSY BY CONCERNED AGENCIES IS IMPERATIVE. IN THE MEANTIME, REQUEST INFORMATION ON WHETHER O'MEARA DID SEE PRINCE MOHAMMED AS PLANNED, AND IF SO, RESULTS OF MEETING.
AKINS

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NNN

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